

Appln No. 09/693,565

Amdt date November 13, 2003

Reply to Office action of August 13, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 and 17-24 are in the present application, of which claims 1, 17 and 21 are independent. Claim 1 has been amended herein. Claims 11-16 have been canceled without prejudice pursuant to a restriction requirement. New claims 17-24 have been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-10. Further, applicants respectfully request consideration on the merits and allowance of claims 17-24.

The specification has been amended on pages 5, 11 and 12 to correct a few clerical errors. For instance, applicants have noticed that both the cash information server on FIG. 1 and the processor on FIG. 2 were inadvertently designated by the same reference numeral 31. Applicants have made appropriate changes to FIG.2 and pages 11 and 12 to correct this clerical error. No new matter has been added.

Applicants appreciate the time and courtesy extended to applicants' attorney (Jun-Young Jeon, Reg. No. 43, 693) during the telephone interview of November 10, 2003. During the telephone interview, claims 1-10 were discussed in view of the Office Action mailed August 13, 2003 and U.S. Patent No. 6,067,530. During the interview, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 upon introducing an active voice into claim 1. No agreement as to allowability was reached.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly lacking patentable utility. Applicants have amended

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claim 1 to explicitly state that which was implicit in the original claim. Therefore, applicants request that the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

Claims 7-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. According to the Office Action, "[t]he claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention." In particular, claim 7 is allegedly unclear as to "what further limitation is being claimed in regard to the sequence number and alternate sequence number and how this is carried out."

Claim 7 recites, in a relevant portion, "the identifiers are a sequence number and an alternate sequence number, wherein the central control unit is configured to adjust the sequence number and the alternate sequence number based on cash being removed from the safe." Such adjustment of the sequence number and the alternate sequence number, for example, is illustrated in FIG. 4 of the present application and corresponding portions of the specification. For example, the specification recites, in a relevant portion, "a sequence number of 0021 and an alternate sequence number of 0021 are associated with cash collected throughout day 1. . . If no armored pickup occurs, then at the end of day 1, point A, an E-mail is sent that includes sequence number 0021 and the alternate sequence number 0021. . . However, if an armored pickup did occur during the day (e.g., during day 2), the alternate sequence number is

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incremented by one. Thus, at point B during day 2, the alternate sequence number becomes 0022. . . The sequence number is then adjusted to be identical to the alternate sequence number. . ." (Page 16, line 21 through page 7, line 31) Hence, adjusting the sequence number and the alternate sequence number based on cash being removed from the safe is supported by at least FIG. 4 and page 16, line 21 through page 17, line 31 of the present application as filed.

Claim 10 is allegedly unclear as to "what further limitation/utility is being claimed in regard to the sequence number and alternate sequence number being the same." As discussed in reference to claim 7 above, the alternate sequence number is adjusted to be different from the sequence number at the time of the removal of cash from the safe. And the sequence number is then adjusted to be identical to the alternate sequence number. Hence, applicants submit that "the sequence number and alternate sequence number are different on the first deposit report and . . . the sequence number and the alternate sequence number are the same on the second deposit report" is supported by at least FIG. 4 and page 16, line 21 through page 17, line 31 of the present application as filed.

Since the claimed elements of claims 7 and 10 are supported by the specification and the drawings as filed, applicants request that the rejection of claims 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn. Since claims 8 and 9 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 7, and claims 8 and 9 have not been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph,

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independently of claim 7, applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn as well.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,067,530 ("Brooks, Jr. et al."). Claims 1-10 have alternatively been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Brooks, Jr. et al. in view of Examiner's Official Notice.

In both of these rejections, the Examiner appears to indicate that Brooks, Jr. et al. discloses "a central control unit configured to receive deposit information from the safe assembly and to generate and transmit deposit reports and transmit identifiers that distinguish deposit information accumulated during an accounting period before a predetermined event and deposit information accumulated during the accounting period after the predetermine event." As applicants' attorney indicated to the Examiner during the telephone interview, applicants do not see such teaching or suggestion in Brooks, Jr. et al.

Claim 1 has been amended herein for clarification. Claim 1 now recites, in a relevant portion, a central control unit which receives deposit information from the safe assembly and generates and transmits deposit reports, and "updates and transmits identifiers" that distinguish deposit information accumulated during an accounting period before a predetermined event and deposit information accumulated during the accounting period after the predetermined event. Applicants submit that such central control unit is not disclosed in Brooks, Jr. et al. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of

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claim 1 under 35 U.S.C §§ 102(e) and 103(a) be withdrawn and that it be allowed.

Since claims 2-10 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1, they incorporate all the terms and limitations of claim 1 in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish them over Brooks, Jr. et al. Therefore, applicants request that the rejection of claims 2-10 under 35 U.S.C. 35 U.S.C §§ 102(e) and 103(a) be withdrawn and that they be allowed.

Claim 17 recites, in a relevant portion, "a central control unit for receiving the deposit information from the safe assembly, for updating a sequence number and an alternate sequence number, and for transmitting the deposit information, the sequence number and the alternate sequence number, wherein the alternate sequence number is updated upon an occurrence of an armored car pickup."

Claim 21 recites, in a relevant portion, "receiving at a central control unit the deposit information; updating at the central control unit an alternate sequence number to indicate an occurrence of an armored car pickup, such that the alternate sequence number becomes different from a sequence number; transmitting the deposit information, the sequence number and the alternate sequence number from the central control unit."

Since Brooks, Jr. et al. does not teach such central control unit or the method of using it, applicants respectfully request that claims 17 and 21 be allowed. Since claims 18-20 and 22-24 depend from claims 17 and 21, respectively, they incorporate all the terms and limitations of the respective base

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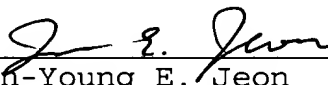
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claim in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish them over the cited references. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that claims 18-20 and 22-24 be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-10 and 17-24, and an early issuance of a patent. If there are any remaining issues that can be addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
Jun-Young E. Jeon
Reg. No. 43,693
626/795-9900

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